I L F R A C O M B E

R I P A R I A N

A U T H O R I T Y .

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1 9 4 6 .

Medical Officer of Health.

ILFRACOMBE RIPARIAN AUTHORITY.

1. Amount of Shipping Entering the Harbour during 1946.

TABLE A.

		Number.	Tonnage.	Number Inspected. By the Medical Officer of Health.	Number Inspected. By the Sanitary Inspector.	Number reported to be defective.	Number of vessels on which defects were remedied.	Number of vessels on which defects were found & reported to Min. of Transport Surveyors.	Number of vessels reported as having, or having had, during the voyage infectious disease on board.
FOREIGN.	Steamers.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	*Motors.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Sailing.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Fishing.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	Foreign.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COASTWISE.	Steamers.	121	21,706	-	2	-	-	-	-
	*Motors.	104	7,991	-	6	-	-	-	-
	Sailing.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Fishing.	2	35	-	2	-	-	-	-
Total	Coastwise.	227	29,732	-	10	-	-	-	-
Total	Foreign & Coastwise.	227	29,732	-	10	-	-	-	-

* Includes mechanically propelled vessels other than steamers.

2. Character of Trade of Port.

TABLE B.

(a). PASSENGER TRAFFIC DURING 1946.

No. of Passengers	1st. Class.	2nd. Class.	3rd. Class.	Transmigrants
Inwards		32,283		Nil.
Outwards		16,584		Nil.

(b). CARGO TRAFFIC.

The principal imports are coal and gravel.

(c). PORTS FROM WHICH VESSELS ARRIVE.

Mainly Irish Free State and Bristol Channel Ports.

3. Water Supply.

The Harbour Undertaking and shipping in the Harbour obtain their water supply from the public water mains. The hydrants and hoses are protected by screw caps and covers. There are no water boats.

4. Port Health Regulations, 1933 and 1945.

(1). Enquiry is made of the master or officer in charge to ascertain if there has been any illness amongst the crew during the voyage.

(2). Notification of any vessel requiring special attention is given to the Health Department by the Harbour Master or Customs Officer.

(3). So far as is practicable vessels are boarded by the Sanitary Inspector on arrival in the Harbour. Arrangements are in operation for the use of a boat when necessary.

(4). None.

4. Importation of Items of Note.

TABLE B.

(a). PRODUCTS MOVING DURING 1948.

Commodities	No. of Ships.	1st. Quar.	2nd. Quar.	3rd. Quar.	4th. Quar.
Imports		24,000			
Exports		16,000			

(b). CARGO TRAFFIC.

The principal imports are coal and gravel.

(c). TRADE FROM OTHER VESSELS MOVING.

Mainly light from ports and minerals during [illegible]

5. Water Supply.

The harbour under boring and dredging in the harbour obtain their water supply from the public water mains. The hydrants and hoses are provided by [illegible] and [illegible]. There are no water boats.

6. Miscellaneous and Suggestions.

7. Port and Harbour Statistics for the Year 1949.

(1). Inquiry is made of the owners as visitors in ports to ascertain if short and open any fishing because the over during the voyage.

(2). Notification of any vessel requiring special attention is given to the Health Department by the harbour master or customs officer.

(3). So far as is practicable vessels are boarded by the sanitary inspector on arrival in the harbour. Arrangements are in operation for the use of a boat when necessary.

(4). None.

(5). As the possibility of the arrival from overseas of a vessel with one of the major diseases is very remote, the place of mooring-discharge or loading is appointed as a mooring station; standing exemption being granted.

(6). None.

(7). (a). Available on the Pier.

(b). The facilities provided by the Urban District Council would be available for all disinfection and cleansing.

(c). No accommodation is available.

(d). Cases of ordinary Infectious Disease would be removed to the Local Authority's Isolation Hospital, and cases of Smallpox to the Devon County Council's Smallpox Hospital.
CHOLERA, YELLOW FEVER, PLAGUE. Owing to the extreme improbability of ships entering Ilfracombe from infected ports, no permanent arrangements have been made with respect to these conditions. Measures would have to be devised should occasion arise.

(e). Ambulance transport - motor ambulance.

(f). Arrangements would be made should occasion arise.

(8) & (9). The Devon County Laboratory at Exeter carry out all bacteriological and pathological examinations.

(10). Posters giving this information are shown in the Public Conveniences near to the Harbour.

(11). The Council are the owners of a burial-ground in the district.

(12). Nil.

TABLE C & TABLE D.

No cases of infectious sickness were landed from vessels nor did any cases of sickness occur on vessels during the voyage to Ilfracombe.

(5). As the possibility of the arrival from overseas of a vessel with one of the major diseases is very remote, the place of receiving-discharge or loading is regarded as a moving station, attending crafters being granted.

(6). None.

(7). (a). Available on the river.

(b). The facilities providing by the Queen Victoria Council would be available for all disinfection and cleansing.

(c). No accommodation is available.

(d). Cases of Quarantine Infectious disease would be referred to the local Authority's Isolation Hospital, and cases of Smallpox to the Devon County Council's Isolation Hospital.

(e). Not applicable.

(f). The extreme improbability of ships entering Plymouth from infected ports, the efficient arrangements have been made with regard to these conditions. Measures would have to be devised should occasion arise.

(8). (a). Adequate transport - motor ambulance.

(b). Arrangements would be made should occasion arise.

(9) & (10). The Devon County Laboratory is fully equipped for all bacteriological and pathological examinations.

(11). Passengers having infectious diseases are sent in the Public Isolation Ambulance and in the Morgue.

(12). The Council are the owners of a burial-ground in the district.

(13). Nil.

PART 3 & PART 4.

No cases of infectious sickness were issued from vessels nor did any cases of sickness occur on vessels during the voyage to Plymouth.

5. Measures against Rodents.

The officer in charge of each ship inspected is questioned as to the presence of rats on board, and systematic inspection is made of the ships, quays and warehouses in the vicinity.

The absence of confined spaces, the smallness of the boats, the short time which elapses between loading and unloading and the supervision at the port of embarkation are factors which assist towards preventing rat infestation, and it is very uncommon to be informed or find evidence of rats on boards

TABLE E.

No rats were destroyed on vessels in the Harbour.

TABLE F.

A total of 313 brown rats were destroyed during the year, 80 in February and 233 in June.

6. Hygiene of Crews' Spaces.

TABLE J.

CLASSIFICATION OF NUISANCES.

Nationality of Vessel.	Number inspected during the year.	Defects of original construction.	Structural defects through wear and tear.	Dirt, vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health.
British	10	-	-	-
Other Nations	-	-	-	-

5. Measures against Mutiny.

The officer in charge of each ship inspected is questioned as to the precautions on this ship against mutinous insurrection in ports of the world, and particulars are in the validity.

The examination of material effects, the medicines of the bosun, the first aid which charges between landing and unlanding and the supervision at the port of embarkation are factors which assist towards preventing the infection, and it is very necessary to be informed of find evidence of rats on board.

TABLE 2.

No ship were destroyed on vessels in the harbour.

TABLE 3.

A total of 313 brown rats were destroyed during the year. 90 in February and 223 in June.

6. Working of Crews' Houses.

TABLE 1.

CLASSIFICATION OF MIGRANTS.

Nationality of Vessel.	Number inspected during the year.	Number of Crews of British Ships detained.	Structural Defects Strength and other conditions prejudicial to health.	Size, warmth and
British	16	-	-	-
Other Nations	-	-	-	-

7. Food Inspection.

It was not found necessary to take any action under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937, the Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1926, or the Public Health (Preservatives, &c., in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1940.

There are no shell-fish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of the Riparian Authority.

No samples of food were taken from the port.

7. Food inspection.

It was not found necessary to take any action under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937, the Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1938, or the Public Health (Preservatives, &c., in Food) Regulations, 1939 to 1943.

There are no shell-fish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of the Riparian Authority.

No samples of food were taken from the port.